

Statement by Senator Mansfield (page 5290, Congressional Record of 9 April 1956) --

"Allen Dulles, Director of CIA, may make no mistakes in assessing intelligence, but he should not be the lone judge in matters which have to do with the intentions of other nations with respect to war and peace."

Comment --

The Director of Central Intelligence is by no means the "lone judge" in matters having to do with the intentions of other nations. His responsibilities were clearly spelled out by the Congress in the National Security Act of 1947. Under the provisions of that Act, and in accordance with Directives of the National Security Council, the CIA does evaluate intelligence information, as do other agencies with responsibilities in this field, such as the military departments and the Department of State. The translation of these evaluations, however, into a final estimate for the National Security Council is a joint undertaking of all agencies concerned with the matter in question. In this process, the Director of Central Intelligence acts as a coordinator, and it is he who advises the National Security Council on the final product of this interagency effort. In no sense, therefore, is he the "lone judge" of other country intentions, and he does not participate in policy deliberations of the National Security Council after intelligence estimates have been presented.